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December 27, 2002

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(including cover)

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**Comments:**

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Docket No. 19789-8

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PATENT#18/PRELIM  
C. Quea  
12/30/02IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: van Ooij et al. : Paper No.:  
Serial No.: 09/356,926 : Group Art Unit: 1775  
Filing Date: July 19, 1999 : Examiner: Michael LaVilla  
For: SILANE COATINGS FOR METAL

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the first action by the Examiner, please amend the present continuation application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 9 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of treating a metal surface, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a metal surface, said metal surface chosen from the group

consisting of:

- a metal surface having a zinc-containing coating;
- zinc; and
- zinc alloy;

and